



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Director of Medical Services

FOR THE YEAR

### 1950—51

PRICE

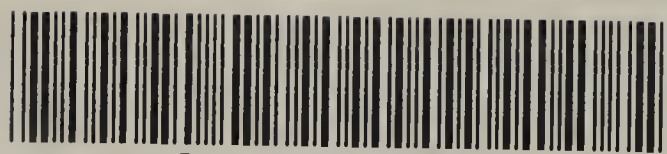
— —

FORTY-EIGHT CENTS

Advocate Co., Ltd.,—Printers to the Government of Barbados

1952

RBB/46(h)



22501299163

No. 2343.A.5013/51.

Department of Medical Services,  
Government Buildings,  
The Wharf, Bridgetown. 1.  
9th July, 1951.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit for the information of His Excellency the Governor and the Legislature the Medical Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of Barbados for the year 1950-51.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH P. O'MAHONY,  
Director of Medical Services.

The Honourable  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Barbados.

30372 / 1951

WELLCOME INSTITUTE LIBRARY	
Coll.	Wellcome
Call	+
No.	Am. Kp
	WA 28
	.G334
	B22

1951



## CONTENTS

	Page
PART I. Legal ....	5
PART II. General Remarks ....	5
PART III. Vital Statistics ....	6
PART IV. Administrative ....	7
PART V. Staff and Institutions:—	
The Barbados General Hospital ....	8
The Mental Hospital ....	10
The Leper Hospital ....	11
The Maternity Hospital ....	12
The Prison Hospital ....	12
The Government Industrial Schools ....	12
The Parochial Almshouses ....	12
Voluntary Agencies ....	13
The Nightingale Memorial Home for Children ....	13
Nursing Services ....	13
PART VI. General and Communicable Diseases ....	13
PART VII. Quarantinable Diseases ....	14
PART VIII. General Sanitation ....	15
PART IX. Food Supplies and Nutrition ....	15
PART X. School Health ....	16
PART XI. Public Health Education ....	16
PART XII. Medical Registration Act; Druggists Act; Therapeutic Substances Act and Dangerous Drugs Act Duties ....	16
PART XIII. Visits ....	17
PART XIV. Finance ....	17

## APPENDICES

1. Parochial Expenditure on Sanitation ....	18
2. Cost of Parochial Poor Law Administration 1950—51 ....	19
3. Cost of Parochial Poor Law Administration 1935/6—1950/51 ....	20
4. Annual Report of the Health Officer (Port) ....	21
5. Causes of Death in each parish ....	25
6. Causes of Death in each Age-group ....	26
7. Major Causes of Death in Urban and Rural areas based on Census population ....	31
8. Major Causes of Death for years 1941—1950 ....	32
9. Causes of Death of Infants under 1 year ....	35
10. Infant Deaths by age in months, % distribution ....	36
11. Infant Deaths by age in months (urban and rural) ....	37
12. Causes of Death in the first year of life ....	38
13. Causes of Death in the first year of life (urban and rural) ....	39
14. Tuberculosis Deaths and Death rates ....	40
15. Comparative Tables of admissions, Barbados General Hospital ....	41
16. Chief Diseases treated at the Barbados General Hospital ....	42
17. Operations performed at the Barbados General Hospital ....	44
18. X-Ray examinations, Barbados General Hospital ....	45
19. Bacteriological Laboratory—Analysis of all examinations, 1949 ....	46
20. Statistics of Mental Hospital, 1930—1950 ....	48
21. Summary of work performed by Inspecting Field Force ....	49





# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Director of Medical Services

FOR THE YEAR 1950--51.

---

### PART I. LEGAL

1. Three Acts were proclaimed during the year which form important additions to the laws governing the activities recorded in this Report:—

A. The Department of Medical Services Act, 1947—14.

This Act provides for the establishment of a Department of Medical Services with a Director as its Head who has, *inter alia*:—

- (1) General responsibilities for all matters affecting the public health and medical services.
- (2) General superintendence and direction of public medical services and Government institutions.
- (3) Inspectorial and reporting powers on infirmaries, almshouses and hospitals.
- (4) General supervision over the work performed for the Government by any medical practitioner receiving pay from the Public Treasury.

B. The Quarantine Act 1947 (1947—38).

This Act is based on the International Conventions (Aerial and Maritime) 1944 and provides for a Quarantine Authority who shall be the Director of Medical Services.

C. The Therapeutic Substances Act, 1949.

An Act passed the Legislature, cited as the Therapeutic Substances Act, 1949, to regulate the manufacture, importation, storage, sale and supply of penicillin and other antibiotics and of sulphonamide drugs and other therapeutic substances, was proclaimed on 1st December, 1950. Its Regulations came into force concurrently.

2. In September, 1950, a Bill was introduced into the Legislature to amend the existing law relating to the treatment of mentally diseased and mentally deficient persons so as to bring it into line with modern developments. This Bill is still receiving consideration by the Legislature.

### PART II. GENERAL REMARKS

3. The health of the Colony is fairly satisfactory when considered in relation to preceding years.

4. A reduction in the crude death rate is noted.

5. The quarantinable diseases did not occur.



6. Epidemics of influenza and whooping-cough occurred and a high incidence of pulmonary complications was noted.

7. A serious epidemic of Jaundice, of which Weil's disease formed a clinical entity, occurred in November and December. This epidemic was associated with heavy rains. While the number of cases cannot be established, since the disease is not reportable, the occurrence of twenty-six deaths denotes the severity of the outbreak.

8. General diseases, of which more detailed information is available in the various sections, were alike to those of previous years. Despite very limited progress, Barbadians still sicken and die of preventable diseases. The Diseases of Early Infancy come first in the order of death-dealing diseases as has been the case in six of the last ten years. Infective and Parasitic diseases still maintain their place within the first three major causes of death. Deaths from Cancer and Other Tumours are seventh on the list.

9. Increased hospital accommodation is important in developing an effective health programme, but sick beds alone will not prevent disease. Obviously the objectives of health are much broader than the salvage of the sick and injured. The balanced programme of Public Health Services to support those of medical care can ensure, at relatively cheap cost, by its stress on mothercraft and personal responsibility for health, an overall reduction in the numbers of those who now seek medical care in both Government and Parochial institutions.

10. The absence of modern Public Health legislation still constitutes an outstanding deficit in the account for community health and welfare betterment. Such an Act would complete the programme of re-organisation, envisaged since 1945, of the Medical Services of which the Department of Medical Services Act 1947—14 and the Quarantine Act 1947—38 form a part. Public and Sanitary Science has travelled far since 1908 (the date of the Public Health Act now in force) and no real progress will issue other than on the basis of such legislation. Without this, energy is dissipated and advantage cannot be taken of the advances and improvements in Public Health and Medical Services now in general acceptance and application throughout the world.

11. The anticipated commencement of Health Centre services at Speightstown has not been realised. The extensive conversion needed to the building purchased for this purpose carried no effective priority in the Government building programme.

### PART III. VITAL STATISTICS

12. The following are the principal vital statistical data for the year ended 31st December, 1950 :—

Estimated population	.. .. .	211,682
Births registered	.. .. .	6,432
Birth rate per 1,000 of the population	.. .. .	30.39
Deaths registered	.. .. .	2,688
Death rate per 1,000 of the population	.. .. .	12.70
Infant Mortality Rate	.. .. .	125
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live births	.. .. .	3.27
Still birth rate per 100 live births	.. .. .	3.06



13. The following comparative statement of the three main rates is of interest :—

Rate	Barbados	Trinidad	Jamaica	Br. Guiana
Births per 1,000 population ..	30.39	37.82	33.06	39.9
Deaths per 1,000 population ..	12.70	12.22	11.82	14.6
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births .. ..	125	80.31	78	86

14. Tables showing a summary of the Causes of Death in each parish and in age groups for the whole island are given in appendices 5 and 6.

#### Comments.

15. The population on the 31st December, 1950 was computed as follows :—

Estimated population 31st December, 1949 ..	206,838
Excess of births over deaths .. ..	3,744
Excess of Immigration over Emigration ..	1,100
Population at 31st December, 1950 .. ..	211,682
	<hr/>
	Males.. Females..
Immigration ..	10,000 8,844 18,844
Emigration .. ..	9,624 8,120 17,744
Arrivals by air ..	13,606
Departures by air ..	13,348

### PART IV. ADMINISTRATIVE.

#### A. PUBLIC HEALTH

16. The Central Authority consists of a General Board of Health and the Director of Medical Services who is a member of the Board. The Central Authority has a Senior Medical Officer of Health and a small force (six) of Sanitary Inspectors at its disposal for supervising work in the parishes. The Board met once-monthly and was chiefly concerned with :—

(a) Division and sale of land under the Public Health Act, 1908.

(b) Amendments to the Dairies Act, 1941 (1941-17).

In respect of (a) it is considered that the Board is not the appropriate body for dealing with applications for the division of land but legislation is necessary to effect the change which is recommended.

17. Local authorities are composed of eleven Boards known as Commissioners of Health appointed on a parochial basis from the Vestry. Each local authority appoints sanitary inspectors varying in number with the size of the parish. The parish of St. Michael employs six Public Health Nurses. The parishes of St. Philip and Christ Church employ one Public Health Nurse and parish midwife respectively.

## B. MEDICAL AID

18. Parochial Medical Officers are employed by the Vestry in each parish for the purpose of attending the poor and carrying on the medical work at the Almshouses. An Inspector of Poor for each parish investigates the circumstances of sick persons and issues tickets for free medical aid when necessary. A desirable orientation in the Parochial Medical Services was effected by the establishment of the St. Michael's Clinic at Bridgetown in January, where out-patient sick destitute persons receive medical care previously provided as out patients at the Parochial Almshouse.

19. An informative and comparative statistical statement of Poor Relief for all parishes from 1935/6 to 1950/51 inclusive is provided in Appendix III.

20. It seems to be the case that approximately one in every ten of the population gets some measure of relief some time during the year.

21. Over the years in question, numbers receiving medical relief diminish.

22. The cost of Poor Relief services has more than trebled itself in fifteen years and the present figure of \$3 per head of the population is notable. If the expenditure of \$471,970 on old age pensions is added, the appreciable figures of \$1,089,086 or \$5 per head of the population is reached.

23. The Director of Medical Services has certain statutory duties to perform in connection with poor relief in the parishes.

## PART V. STAFF AND INSTITUTIONS

### Staff :

24. The following medical officers were employed by the Government :—

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Whole-time : | The Director of Medical Services                       |
|              | The Senior Medical Officer of Health                   |
|              | The Bacteriologist and Pathologist                     |
|              | The Health Officer (Port).                             |
| Part-time :  | The Assistant Health Officer (Port)                    |
|              | The Visiting Physician, Leper Hospital                 |
|              | The Prison Medical Officer                             |
|              | The Visiting Physician, Government Industrial Schools. |
|              | The Visiting Obstetrician, Maternity Hospital          |
|              | Six Police Medical Officers.                           |

### Institutions :

25. **The Barbados General Hospital:** Operating within the Department of Medical Services under the provisions of the Barbados General Hospital Act, 1947 (1947-28), the staff is comprised as follows :—

- |              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Whole-time : | One Medical Superintendent |
|              | One Surgeon Specialist     |
|              | One Physician Specialist   |
|              | One Radiologist            |
|              | One Anaesthetist           |
|              | Six Medical Officers.      |



- Part-time : Three Visiting Surgeons  
 Two Assistant Visiting Surgeons  
 One Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon  
 One Assistant Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon  
 One Medical Officer, Venereal Diseases Clinic  
 One Assistant Medical Officer, Venereal Diseases Clinic  
 One Out-patient Medical Officer  
 One Dental Surgeon.
- Nursing : One Matron  
 One Assistant Matron  
 One Sister Tutor  
 Five Nursing Sisters.

26. Part of the recommendations of the Hallinan Report on the Hospital, issued in February 1950, were accepted by Government and certain others reserved for further consideration. Those so far accepted chiefly relate to increase of full-time medical and nursing staff and financial provision was made available by the Legislature, effective 1st June, 1950. Of special interest is the additional post of Physician Specialist, to which an appointment has yet to be made, which will permit of the much-needed re-organisation of the medical side of the Institution.

27. Dr. J. E. Donohoe resigned his acting appointment as Medical Superintendent in May and the administrative duties of the Hospital were divided between the Surgeon Specialist and the Steward and Secretary, who continued to accept these additional and onerous duties at the year's close. The appointment of a Medical Superintendent is receiving active attention.

28. Dr. S. A. E. Kinch assumed duty as Medical Officer on 1st April, 1950 and resigned on 18th May, which left the Hospital with one Medical Officer. This serious depletion resulted in a critical situation which was overcome by the co-operation of the Visiting Staff which is gratefully appreciated.

29. Dr. G. T. Cummins, Medical Officer, resigned his appointment on 30th April and undertook part-time duties.

30. Dr. D. O. S. Payne, Medical Officer, also resigned his appointment on 30th June and undertook part-time duties.

31. Dr. D. A. Gale assumed duty as Medical Officer on the 5th June.

32. Dr. F. G. Reader assumed duty as Medical Officer on 22nd July.

33. During the latter part of the year, recruitment presented a more favourable picture. Dr. G. E. Stoker assumed duty as Medical Officer on 29th November and Dr. O. James assumed duty also as Medical Officer on the 4th January, 1951.

34. The post of Anaesthetist is a welcome addition to the Hospital services and Dr. Mary Anna Nicholson-Wright was appointed to this post in March, 1951.

35. The three Out-patient Medical Officers resigned on 31st March 1950 and the work was consolidated into one appointment.

36. Two additional posts of Departmental Sister were created and one was filled in March 1951 by the appointment of Miss E. M. Skinner, who received basic training in general nursing and midwifery in the United Kingdom under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D.476.



37. A decision on the enlargement of the Hospital on its present site is still awaited. Increased accommodation and improved auxiliary services are needed if improved medical and nursing services are to be promoted and maintained.

38. The staff of the X-Ray Department was increased by the establishment of two posts of X-Ray Assistant and the number of student Radiographers was reduced from two to one. The work of this branch is reflected in the statistical table appended.

39. Statistics relating to the work of the Hospital for the calendar year 1950 are available in Appendices XV-XVIII.

40. The Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory carried out its usual function in respect of helminthology, protozoology, serology, bacteriology, clinical pathology, pathological histology and medico-legal investigations.

41. Structural additions and alterations to the Laboratory were effected.

42. Re-organisation and increase of the establishment was made by the creation of the following posts :—

- 1 Chemical Pathologist
- 2 Laboratory Assistants
- 1 Stenographer-typist.

43. Statistics relating to the calendar year 1949 are available in Appendix XIX.

#### 44. The Mental Hospital.

Staff :—One Medical Superintendent  
Two Assistant Medical Superintendents,  
One Matron.

45. Full establishment was effected by the arrival of Dr. J. J. T. Klimczynski on the 6th January, 1951 to take up duties as Assistant Medical Superintendent.

46. The total number of patients in residence on the 31st December, 1950 was 713 (290 males, 423 females) as against 733 (303 males and 431 females) on 31st December, 1949.

47. The average number in residence during the year was 720 as against 749 in 1949. The highest number at any time being 733 on the night of 29th January, and the lowest 707 on the night of 14th May.

48. 230 patients (88 males and 142 females) were admitted for treatment during the year, as against 228 (85 males and 143 females) in 1949.

49. 180 patients were discharged during the year (74 males and 106 females) as against 168 (71 males and 97 females) in 1949.

50. 59 patients (26 males and 33 females) were admitted under observation. Of this number, 39 (17 males and 22 females) were discharged, not having been certified.

51. The total number of admissions 230 was the highest recorded and the total number of discharges 180 was also the highest. An interesting feature is the increase in the number of patients remanded under observation (59) and discharged (39) as against (20) remanded and (9) discharged in 1949. It is satisfactory that the Police Magistrates have co-operated so well in this matter and a considerable number of certifications have thus been avoided.



52 **Deaths.** The total number of deaths during the year under report was 70 (27 males and 43 females) as against 83 (33 males and 50 females) in 1949. The main causes of death were the following :—

(1) Myocardial degeneration	.. .. .	15
(2) Arteriosclerosis	.. .. .	13
(3) General paralysis of the insane	.. .. .	10
(4) Tuberculosis	.. .. .	11

53. **Accommodation.** For the accommodation of patients there are 35 dormitories holding 380 beds and 391 single rooms (total bed accommodation 771). The pay ward accommodation is inadequate but efforts are being made to increase this.

54. **Staff.** Under the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) Order No. 7, 1950, the following new offices were created :—

(1) Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor	..	1
(2) Charge Attendants (male and female)	..	16
(3) Maids	.. .. .	2
(4) Additional attendants (3 male & 3 female)	..	6

All these offices have been filled with the exception of the Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor.

55. **Treatment.** In addition to rest, sedation, occupational therapy, psychotherapy etc., modern physical methods of the treatment especially E.C.T. prolonged Narcosis and Narco-Analysis have been used extensively and efforts are made to induce suitable patients who have been discharged to come up for maintenance treatment as out-patients and thereby avoid relapses and re-admissions. Intensive treatment with penicillin, tryparamide and bismuth continues for cases of Dementia Paralytica and Cerebral syphilis, with satisfactory results in many cases; but unfortunately a large number are admitted in advanced stages of the disease.

56. **Expenditure.** The expenditure in connection with this Institution for 1950-51 was \$279,699 as against \$266,285 in 1949-50. The cost per head to maintain the patients during the year being \$1.06. This does not include maintenance and repairs to buildings.

57. Vital statistics of the Mental Hospital are available in Appendix XX.

### **The Leper Hospital :**

58. Sulphetrone treatment continues to be used and a sufficient time has now elapsed to assess its value. Marked improvement is noted in a large percentage of lepromatous cases both from the bacteriological and physical standpoints and the improved mental outlook of the patients is a cause for genuine satisfaction.

59. Routine treatment of concurrent disease has played its part in improving the health of the inmates.

60. The Visiting Committee continues to give valuable assistance on the welfare side.

61. Side by side with the decrease in the number of inmates, staff reduction was effected by allowing two vacant posts to remain unfilled.

62. The following information is of interest :

No. of inmates in residence on 1st January, 1950	.. .. .	38
New admissions	.. .. .	0



Re-admissions .. .. .	1
Re-admissions (on compassionate grounds) .. ..	1
Discharges .. .. .	3
Deaths .. .. .	2
In residence on 31st December, 1950 .. ..	34
Expenditure for the financial year 1950-51 ..	\$26,913.32
After-care of discharged lepers .. ..	5,497.44

### The Maternity Hospital

63. The primary function of the Hospital continues in the training of midwives. Six trained nurse-pupils and ten untrained pupils completed the course. Fifteen presented themselves for examination and fourteen were successful.

64. The following statistics record the work of the Hospital :--

Admissions .. .. .	497
Deliveries .. .. .	420
Discharges .. .. .	502
Maternal deaths (eclampsia) .. ..	1
Stillbirths .. .. .	11
Neo-natal deaths .. .. .	9

65. The ante-natal clinic continues to be well attended at its twice-weekly services of which details are as follows :—  
(including a new service of dental care) :—

Ante-natal attendances .. ..	3,299
Post natal attendances .. ..	357
Dental benefits .. .. .	198
Kahn Tests .. .. .	489
Positive Kahns (% positive 13%) .. ..	64

66. There is improved attendance at the post natal clinic and lectures to mothers are established.

67. It is of interest to record here information on the number of mothers benefitting by institutional midwifery care in hospitals and almshouses :—

Maternity Hospital .. .. .	420
General Hospital .. .. .	321
Almshouses .. .. .	488
St. Michael .. .. .	294
St. Lucy .. .. .	70
St. George .. .. .	61
Others .. .. .	163
No. attended by Christ Church parish midwife .. .. .	75

68. **The Prison Hospital.** The health of the prisoners was satisfactory throughout the year, the incidence of illness remaining low.

69. **The Government Industrial Schools.** The total male population of 68 and female population of 7 has varied little in the last five years. Medical and dental service is available and minor ailments chiefly encountered.

70. **Parochial Almshouses:** High standards of medical care continue. The maintenance of buildings continues to be good in general. A new Nurses' Home was built at the St. Thomas' almshouse and improvements in sanitation effected in Christ Church and St. John. The Board of Guardians administer with care and interest.



71. **Voluntary Agencies:** The five voluntary agencies operating in the interest of the infant and child, i.e. the Baby Welfare League, the St. Lawrence Child Health Centre, the St. Philip Baby Welfare Centre, the Christ Church Baby Welfare League and the Children's Goodwill League continue to give the benefit of clinic services, food supplements and meals to necessitous children. Medical supervision is now available and more stress is laid on the educational aspect of clinic services.

72. **The Nightingale Memorial Home for Children.** 19 boys and 18 girls are in this Home which provides for the care of destitute, homeless children between the ages of 5 and 18 years from St. Michael's parish. The Board of Guardians administer carefully and staff supervision is very good.

73. Opportunity is given to some of the senior boys and girls to receive training in certain trades to equip them in future life.

74. The limit of accommodation has now been reached and consideration is being given to expansion, and it is hoped that some form of supervision will be provided for those boys and girls who will shortly leave.

### **Nursing Services.**

75. The General Nursing Council functioned regularly during the year.

76. The Barbados Nurses' Association—a private organisation—operates a nurses employment bureau and continues to administer a Government grant amounting to \$2,338 under the supervision of the Director of Medical Services. Two District Nurses are employed who visit some schools and provide treatment for minor ailments there and in the homes. Some advice is given in ante-natal and infant care and cases referred by medical practitioners are provided with the necessary care.

## **PART VI. GENERAL AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.**

77. Figures in this part of the Report and the statistical tables in the Appendices refer to the calendar year 1950.

### **General Diseases.**

78. **Diseases of Early Infancy** were responsible for 472 deaths, representing 17.56% of total deaths.

79. **Diseases of the Circulatory System** were responsible for 406 deaths, representing 15.10% of total deaths.

80. **Infective and Parasitic Diseases** were responsible for 329 deaths, representing 12.24% of total deaths.

81. **Intracranial lesions of vascular origin** accounted for 210 deaths, representing 7.18% of total deaths. These causes represented 85% of the deaths due to diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs.

82. **Diseases of the Respiratory System.** 342 deaths were registered, representing 12.72% of total deaths. 197 of these were due to pneumonia or broncho-pneumonia and of these 95 occurred within the first year. Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and whooping-cough are not included in this category.

83. **Diseases of the Digestive System** accounted for 213 deaths, representing 7.92% of total deaths.



84. **Cancer and Other Tumours** were the cause of 173 deaths, representing 6.1% of total deaths.

85. More detailed information is given in the Appendices to the Report and special attention is drawn to the eight major causes of death as classified under the Intermediate International List of Causes of Death. These statistics are shown for 1941/50.

### **Communicable Diseases.**

86. **Enteric Fever:**— 37 cases were reported as against 69 in 1949. Of these nine or 24.3% died. Though the morbidity represents a notable decrease, it cannot be regarded as a true index of the disease in the community and all efforts to improve environmental sanitation, and to give protection by the appropriate vaccine should continue.

87. **Tuberculosis:**— 78 cases were notified as against 93 in 1949. Total deaths were 85, of which 45 occurred in residents of the populated area of St. Michael. A limited number of beds are available in Almshouses for isolation of tuberculosis cases. Co-ordinated attack on this disease by Public Health and Curative Services is long overdue. Statistics are available in Appendix XIV to the Report which cover a period of years.

88. **Diphtheria:**— 23 cases with one death were notified as against 14 in 1949. Free antitoxin and free prophylactic toxoid continue to be made available to medical practitioners.

89. **Venereal Diseases:**— Although not notifiable, the five types occurred during the year. Of the 129 deaths caused by syphilis, or 4.8% of total deaths, 70 occurred within the first year of life and 11 occurred from the first to the fourth year. There is need for improved venereal disease services from which good dividends can be expected.

90. **Leprosy:**— No new cases were reported. There were two deaths. To think in terms of eradication rather than control is not too strong a presumption.

91. **Tetanus:**— 44 deaths occurred as a result of this disease. Of this number 25 were infants under one year of age.

92. **Cerebro-spinal Meningitis:**— Two cases were reported as against 6 in 1949.

93. **Malaria:**— The Colony remained free from malaria and anopheline mosquitoes were not found. Disinsectisation of schooners and aircraft continues routinely.

94. **Whooping Cough:**— Twelve deaths occurred in a fairly severe epidemic.

## **PART VII. QUARANTINABLE DISEASES**

94. No cases of the five quarantinable or Convention Diseases were notified.

95. One case of suspected smallpox was quarantined from a ship outward bound from the United Kingdom, which was later considered to be one of modified smallpox. Usual measures were taken and all ship's personnel and port workers received the benefit of vaccination. Secondary incidence did not occur.



96. As stated in Part I, modern quarantine legislation is now in force.

97. Rat and mosquito control measures continue at the port of Bridgetown and the airport at Seawell. The Department co-operates with the Chamber of Commerce and the Agricultural Society in their annual rat destruction programmes.

98. **Smallpox Vaccination:**— 7,125 persons, including 579 infants, were protected by vaccination during the year. The response to infant vaccination continues to be very poor and some parishes do not accept their obligation in this important aspect of public health. Too often is conscientious objection used as a means to evade the Infant Vaccination laws. Efforts continue to dispel the ignorance, indifference and opposition to infant vaccination.

## PART VIII. GENERAL SANITATION

99. The administration of hygiene and sanitation continued to be administered by eleven separate and independent parochial Boards of Commissioners of Health. Though expert advice is not available within these bodies, there is a welcome tendency, more than in the past, for them to seek advice from the Departmental experts. Modern Public Health legislation, setting out the responsibility of Central and Local Government, would aid towards real and uniform progress which is now lacking.

100. It is essential to progress that the sanitary inspectorial services in the parishes should be raised and the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, which can be obtained locally, should be a prerequisite to appointment. Neither this nor uniformity in standards of selection obtains at present.

101. The General Board of Health continued to function during the year. Its sanitary inspectors continued to visit the parishes and a summary of their services is supplied under Appendix XXI.

102. 36 model latrines were supplied free by the Department of Medical Services to various parishes as an aid in improving rural sanitation.

103. **Water Supplies:**— Close liaison was maintained with the Waterworks Department. Service lines are being extended and all supplies chlorinated.

104. **Housing:**— The Department is represented on the Housing Board by the Director of Medical Services who attended all meetings.

105. 126 houses were removed from congested areas in Bridgetown and placed at the Government-owned Bay Estate. 94 new houses built of local stone were completed at this Estate and that of the Pine which were rented to selected tenants from the lower income groups. Public utilities were provided. The cost of new housing continues to remain too high.

## PART IX. FOOD SUPPLIES AND NUTRITION

106. Excellent conditions prevailed during the year for the growing of locally produced provisions. Price control and subsidisation of flour, salt fish, etc. continued and an adequate supply maintained. These factors helped to maintain the nutritional level of the general population.



107. **School Meals:**— A school meal consisting of either cows' milk or powdered skimmed milk and food yeast biscuits continued to be available to elementary school children.

108. **Institutions:**— All hospitals and most almshouses availed themselves of food yeast as a daily inclusion in the diet and for curative purposes. The supply of this product is commercially available and there is evidence of its wider use by the community in general.

## **PART X. SCHOOL HEALTH**

109. There is no organised school medical service. Free dental service continued to be given by two part-time dentists and 7,416 children were provided with dental care.

110. 225 children suffering from visual defects received treatment by the Senior Visiting Ophthalmic Surgeon of the General Hospital and 41 were provided free with spectacles.

## **PART XI. PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION**

111. An historically unique feature of the year was the Conference of Sanitary Inspectors, Government and Parochial, and Public Health Nurses held under the auspices of the Department of Medical Services and the Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies. During its week, lectures were given in the Hygiene of Food and Food Handling; the training and functions of the Public Health Nurse; refuse disposal; the health and welfare of the mother before and after confinement; the nutrition of working-class mothers; infant mortality in Barbados; problems of tropical housing; tuberculosis; modern methods of Public Health teaching; prevention and control of infectious diseases in a port; the scope of district nursing in Barbados and the treatment of Venereal Diseases, to which latter subject Dr. G. M. Thomson, Venereal Disease Adviser to the West Indian Governments gave his expert attention.

112. The Conference saw fit to pass a resolution urging the waging of a campaign for mass health education and the enactment of modern and comprehensive public health legislation.

113. Instruction in hygiene and sanitation is given by school teachers to their pupils in the Elementary Schools.

114. The annual course of training for Sanitary Inspectors was again given by the Senior Medical Officer of Health. Twenty-seven candidates sat the examination for the local certificate and thirteen passed.

115. Two Sanitary Inspectors, one from St. Philip and the other from the Government Field Force, and two nurses were selected for training at the advanced course at the Public Health Training Centre in Jamaica, for which local funds are provided.

## **PART XII. MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT; DRUGGISTS ACT, THERAPEUTIC SUBSTANCES ACT AND DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT DUTIES.**

116. The Medical Assessors, under the Chairmanship of the Director of Medical Services continued, at needed intervals, to perform their function under the Medical Registration Act, 1911-6 and the Druggists Act, 1894-3.

117. Under the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1936-3, the Therapeutic Substances Act 1949, the Director of Medical Services supervised the importation and internal control of dangerous drugs and therapeutic substances.

### PART XIII. VISITS.

118. The Chief Medical Officer, Colonial Office, Dr. E. D. Pridie, C.M.G., O.B.E., D.S.O., visited the Colony from 18th to 28th December. Accompanied by Dr. J. W. P. Harkness, C.M.G., O.B.E., Medical Adviser to Development and Welfare in the West Indies, he visited all the Government hospitals and one almshouse and met many persons interested in the health and welfare of the Colony.

119. Dr. G. M. Thomson, Medical Adviser on Venereal Disease Control to the West Indian Governments, visited the Colony from 7th — 21st March to observe on venereal disease services in the Colony and to report on the indications which are considered necessary to bring this service into line with current practice.

### PART XIV. FINANCE.

120. The following financial statement is for the year 1950-51 :—

Department of Medical Services	..	..	\$	20,073.99
General Hospital	..	..	..	591,521.21
Lunatic Asylum	..	..	..	280,542.88
Lazaretto	..	..	..	49,584.17
Board of Health	..	..	..	37,164.46
Poor Law Board	..	..	..	2,928.00
Port Health Officer	..	..	..	5,723.55
General Nursing Council	..	..	..	259.95
Maternity Hospital	..	..	..	23,401.08
Other Medical Services	..	..	..	14,147.12
<b>Grants —</b>				
Barbados Nurses' Association	..	..	..	2,311.74
<b>Miscellaneous :</b>				
Emigration Expenses	..	..	..	76.00
Total	..	..	..	\$1,027,734.14
<b>Revenue —</b>				
General Hospital	..	..	\$	55,938.44

(JOSEPH P. O'MAHONY),  
Director of Medical Services.







BARBADOS.

APPENDIX II

COST OF PAROCHIAL POOR LAW ADMINISTRATION, 1950-1951.

Parish	Number receiving any kind of Poor Relief	Number receiving Medical Relief	Number receiving Cash Relief	Number receiving Relief in kind	Number in Almshouse (Destitute)	Number receiving Medical Relief in Almshouse	Number buried at Parish Expense	Total cost of Relief
St. Michael ..	9,399	3,452	2,845	4,410	422	1,131	245	\$330,627.16
Christ Church ..	2,123	1,637	382	4	97	80	20	55,948.62
St. George ..	870	602	374	9	64	249	12	26,826.79
St. Philip ..	1,552	1,169	484	7	53	285	12	51,363.77
St. John ..	1,869	1,769	244	86	40	215	13	23,594.84
St. James ..	603	327	302	2	29	224	12	21,192.22
St. Thomas ..	409	342	127	74	24	57	5	23,670.52
St. Peter ..	940	734	228	—	39	143	11	24,049.33
St. Lucy ..	1,116	960	352	1	5	470	19	27,311.49
St. Joseph ..	771	756	213	21	30	145	6	16,740.05
St. Andrew ..	312	262	81	8	16	64	5	15,791.26
Total ..	19,964	12,010	5,632	4,622	819	3,063	360	\$617,116.05

## APPENDIX III

## STATISTICS OF POOR RELIEF FOR ALL PARISHES FROM 1935-36 TO 1950-51 INCLUSIVE.

Year	Number receiving all Relief	Number receiving Medical Relief	Number visited in their homes	Number receiving Medical Relief in Almshouse	Number receiving Cash Relief	Number in Almshouse for non-medical reasons	Number buried at Parish Expense	Total cost of Relief
1935-36	21,310	16,871	1,288	2,952	4,841	714	447	\$ 199,639.99
1936-37	21,754	17,639	681	1,644	5,027	773	460	203,671.34
1937-38	22,760	18,981	1,577	3,211	6,080	787	475	207,754.49
1938-39	23,902	19,376	836	1,815	6,290	744	453	209,646.98
1939-40	23,385	18,390	1,728	3,624	6,517	710	390	232,649.25
1940-41	26,171	21,037	1,769	3,977	7,092	911	400	251,297.56
1941-42	24,881	19,049	1,259	3,381	6,773	966	500	274,866.71
1942-43	21,319	15,438	1,823	3,335	5,536	843	445	289,399.67
1943-44	20,240	15,781	1,482	3,162	4,980	839	434	316,102.16
1944-45	17,971	13,478	1,305	3,066	4,828	768	379	331,363.68
1945-46	15,913	11,503	1,181	2,968	4,581	777	303	350,591.93
1946-47	20,160	11,226	1,175	2,854	5,182	737	309	438,637.12
1947-48	19,351	11,534	1,177	2,847	5,826	791	316	525,893.89
1948-49	19,626	12,182	1,469	3,005	5,815	748	370	540,688.93
1949-50	19,478	11,695	800	2,890	5,810	865	352	598,320.00
1950-51	19,964	12,010	824	3,063	5,632	819	360	617,116.05
Total	338,185	246,190	20,374	47,794	90,810	12,792	6,393	\$5,588,639.75



## APPENDIX IV

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH OFFICER (PORT) FOR THE  
YEAR 1950

During the year, 1,068 ships were admitted to the Port of Bridgetown, representing a total net tonnage of 1,702,831. This tonnage was apportioned as follows :—

Steamer and motor propelled vessels	..	..	1,679,085
Sailing ships	..	..	23,746

2. The appended table shows the figures for the past five years :—

Year	Number of Ships				Net Tonnage
1946	..	..	910	..	863,742
1947	..	..	1,006	..	1,251,456
1948	..	..	968	..	1,108,908
1949	..	..	1,032	..	1,380,232
1950	..	..	1,068	..	1,702,831

3. The total number of passengers landing in the Colony by ship was 5,238; of these 2,353 were first class.

4. 1,297 passenger aircraft arrived in the Colony during the year. They carried a total of 15,659 passengers of which 13,592 landed in the Colony and 2,067 were intransit elsewhere.

(Sgd.) A. V. GREAVES  
Ag. Health Officer (Port).

TABLE "A"

Nationality	S. S.	Motor Vessels	Yachts	Schooners	Motor Ships	Tankers	Warships	TOTAL
British ..	181	136	12	420	—	1	2	752
American ..	79	—	5	1	—	—	4	89
Canadian ..	47	13	—	—	—	—	—	60
Dutch ..	48	11	—	—	3	—	1	63
Danish ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Norwegian	36	—	1	—	1	—	—	38
Venezuelan	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Spanish ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Egyptian ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Honduran	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Italian ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Argentine	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Mexican ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
French ..	25	7	—	4	—	—	—	36
Swedish ..	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	10
Finnish ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Panamanian	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total ..	433	179	18	426	4	1	7	1,068

Year	Arrivals	Net Tonnage
1946	910	863,742
1947	1,006	1,251,456
1948	968	1,108,908
1949	1,032	1,380,232
1950	1,068	1,702,831



TABLE "B"

Aircraft 1950

NATIONALITY			NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT
British	..	..	1,199
American	..	..	30
Canadian	..	..	48
Dutch	..	..	14
Venezuelan	..	..	4
Private	..	..	2
Total	..	..	1,297





## APPENDIX V.

## CAUSES OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1950

Diseases		NUMBER REGISTERED IN																				TOTAL				
		St. Michael		X. Church		St. George		St. Philip		St. John		St. James		St. Thomas		St. Peter		St. Lucy		St. Joseph		St. Andrew		Persons		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
I	Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	79	54	16	13	21	10	18	9	9	12	5	6	7	3	10	8	13	17	5	3	2	9	185	144	329
II	Cancer and Other Tumours ...	28	59	5	21	1	9	2	8	5	7	2	7	1	3	2	2	1	3	3	3	1	—	51	122	173
III	Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition and of the Endocrine Glands, Other General Diseases ...	11	18	—	7	3	1	2	1	3	5	2	2	—	—	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	26	41	67
IV	Diseases of the Blood and Blood-Forming Organs ...	1	5	2	1	—	1	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	12	16
V	Chronic Poisoning and Intoxication ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
VI	Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs ...	44	76	15	18	7	10	7	16	1	3	4	10	5	4	1	3	7	9	1	2	1	3	93	154	247
VII	Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	45	78	14	21	13	29	4	11	9	20	12	20	8	10	8	31	17	9	9	16	8	14	147	259	406
VIII	Diseases of the Respiratory System ...	50	60	11	20	14	6	7	8	7	3	9	4	3	3	7	7	5	9	4	2	2	1	119	123	242
IX	Diseases of the Digestive System ...	40	32	15	11	10	8	13	8	9	3	10	9	8	5	5	8	1	5	4	4	4	1	119	94	213
X	Diseases of the Urinary and Genital Systems ...	39	39	3	9	7	4	7	4	2	1	7	7	2	4	4	2	4	2	—	—	4	2	79	74	153
XI	Diseases of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Puerperal State ...	—	7	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	21	21
XII	Diseases of the Skin and Cellular Tissue ...	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	6
XIII	Diseases of the Bones and Organs of Movement ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	4
XIV	Congenital Malformations ...	4	4	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	13
XV	Diseases peculiar to the First Year of life ...	101	82	17	17	19	17	13	16	10	6	14	11	17	13	19	12	7	5	22	24	15	15	254	218	472
XVI	Senility ...	32	71	2	14	6	12	6	7	2	4	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	51	121	172
XVII	Violent or Accidental Deaths ...	16	10	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	28	20	48
XVIII	Ill-Defined Causes of Death ...	16	30	10	9	6	5	3	2	4	1	3	4	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	46	58	104
Total, all Groups ...		509	627	113	166	109	115	85	99	66	68	70	85	59	58	58	78	56	62	52	61	40	52	1217	1471	2688





[illegible]





## APPENDIX VI.—Continued

CAUSES OF DEATHS, ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS, REGISTERED IN BARBADOS DURING THE YEAR 1950

[illegible]





## APPENDIX VI.—Continued

CAUSES OF DEATHS ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS, REGISTERED IN BARBADOS DURING THE YEAR 1950

[illegible]





[illegible]





APPENDIX VI.—*Concluded*

CAUSES OF DEATHS, ARRANGED IN AGE GROUPS, REGISTERED IN BARBADOS DURING THE YEAR 1950

[illegible]





## APPENDIX VII

MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
INTERMEDIATE INTERNATIONAL LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH.  
1950.

---

1946 Census population.	Urban	{Bridgetown			
		{St. Michael	..	..	76,437
	Rural		..	..	116,363

---

Classifi- cation.	Total No. of Deaths	Urban Deaths	per 100,000	
			Urban Rate	Rural Rate
XV Early Infancy .. ..	472	183	239	248
VII Circulatory System ..	406	123	161	243
I Infective & Parasitic ..	329	133	174	168
VI Nervous System .. ..	247	120	157	109
VIII Respiratory System ..	242	110	144	113
IX Digestive System .. ..	213	72	94	121
II Cancer & Other Tumours ..	173	87	114	74
XVI Senility .. .. ..	172	103	135	59
X Genito-Urinary .. ..	153	78	102	64

## APPENDIX VIII

## BARBADOS

MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
INTERMEDIATE INTERNATIONAL LIST OF CAUSES OF  
DEATH

1941—1950.

Year	Classi- fication		No. of Deaths	% of Total Deaths
1941	IX	Diseases of the Digestive System ..	659	16.88
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	570	14.61
	XV	Early Infancy .. ..	549	14.07
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	500	12.81
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	367	11.97
	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	316	8.10
	X	Genito-Urinary System .. ..	287	7.36
1942	XVI	Senility .. ..	272	6.97
	XV	Early Infancy .. ..	527	16.09
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	475	14.50
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	451	13.77
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	411	12.55
	VI	Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	266	8.12
	XVI	Senility .. ..	243	7.43
1943	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	239	7.30
	XV	Early Infancy .. ..	472	15.21
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	448	14.43
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	443	14.27
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	368	11.86
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	301	9.70
	XVI	Senility .. ..	270	8.70
1944	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	261	8.41
	X	Genito-Urinary System .. ..	218	7.02
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	545	16.31
	XV	Early Infancy .. ..	532	15.92
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	384	11.49
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	323	9.67
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	323	9.67
1945	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	257	7.69
	X	Genito-Urinary System .. ..	251	7.54
	XVI	Senility .. ..	237	7.09



APPENDIX VIII—*Continued*

## BARBADOS.

MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
INTERMEDIATE INTERNATIONAL LIST OF CAUSES OF  
DEATH.

1941—1950

Year	Classi- fication		No. of Deaths	% of Total Deaths
1945	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	468	14.79
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	423	13.37
	XV	Diseases of Early Infancy ..	371	11.73
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	359	11.35
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	319	10.08
	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	307	9.70
	X	Genito-Urinary System .. ..	242	7.65
	XVI	Senility .. ..	172	5.44
1946	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	499	15.17
	XV	Early Infancy .. ..	447	13.59
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	342	10.40
	XVI	Senility .. ..	309	9.39
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	303	9.21
	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	297	9.03
	X	Genito-Urinary .. ..	246	7.48
	II	Cancer and other Tumours ..	162	4.62
1947	XV	Early Infancy .. ..	588	18.35
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	464	14.48
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	451	14.39
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	338	10.55
	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	272	8.49
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	271	8.46
	XVI	Senility .. ..	222	6.93
	X	Genito-Urinary .. ..	214	6.68
1948	XV	Early Infancy .. ..	608	19.36
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	485	15.44
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	397	12.64
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	360	11.46
	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	289	9.20
	XVI	Senility .. ..	206	6.56
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	193	6.11
	X	Genito-Urinary .. ..	182	5.79

**APPENDIX VIII**—*Concluded*

## BARBADOS.

MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
INTERMEDIATE INTERNATIONAL LIST OF CAUSES OF  
DEATH.

1941—1950.

Year	Classi- fication		No. of Deaths	% of Total Deaths
1949	XV	Early Infancy .. .. .	441	14.80
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	438	14.70
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	412	13.83
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	315	10.57
	VI	Diseases of the Nervous System ..	287	9.63
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	253	8.49
	XVI	Senility .. .. .	189	6.34
	II	Cancer and other Tumours ..	165	5.54
	X	Genito-Urinary .. .. .	148	4.97
1950	XV	Early Infancy .. .. .	472	17.56
	VII	Diseases of Circulatory System ..	406	15.10
	I	Infective & Parasitic Diseases ..	329	12.24
	VI	Diseases of Nervous System ..	247	9.19
	VIII	Diseases of Respiratory System ..	242	9.00
	IX	Diseases of Digestive System ..	213	7.92
	II	Cancer and other Tumours ..	173	6.44
	XVI	Senility .. .. .	172	6.40
	X	Genito-Urinary .. .. .	153	5.69



# APPENDIX IX

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1950

	NUMBER REGISTERED IN																TOTAL								
	St. Michael		X. Church		St. George		St. Philip		St. John		St. James		St. Thomas		St. Peter		St. Lucy		St. Joseph		St. Andrew		Persons		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Under 1 day	15	10	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	...	1	2	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	3	2	3	26	23	49
1 day — 6 days	28	24	8	5	4	5	6	6	3	5	3	2	1	4	1	...	4	2	2	3	2	3	67	58	125
7 days — month	22	12	4	7	7	5	6	5	...	...	1	5	...	6	...	5	2	4	1	4	1	4	57	47	104
Total under 1 month...	65	46	13	14	13	11	10	14	11	5	6	5	7	3	11	6	6	6	8	5	10	150	128	278	
1 month — 2 months	21	10	4	3	3	3	3	...	4	2	4	5	3	1	1	4	4	3	2	1	1	54	34	88	
3 months — 5 months	30	25	6	5	9	4	7	12	4	4	5	7	6	6	11	9	2	6	6	2	1	88	85	173	
6 months — 8 months	31	20	10	6	6	5	5	3	4	6	8	4	5	6	5	5	3	8	4	...	2	85	69	154	
9 months — 11 months	10	21	5	4	6	1	5	4	2	5	1	4	2	3	7	5	4	5	6	6	4	50	62	112	
Total under 1 year ...	157	122	38	32	37	24	30	33	25	22	24	25	23	19	35	29	19	28	25	26	14	427	378	805	

## APPENDIX X

## BARBADOS.

## INFANT DEATHS BY AGE IN MONTHS — % DISTRIBUTION 1950

Age at Death	Deaths in First Year of Life	
	Number	% Distribution
Under 1 Year .. .. .	805	100
Under 1 Month .. .. .	278	35
Under 1 Day .. .. .	49	6
1 — 6 Days .. .. .	125	16
7 days — 1 month .. .. .	104	3
1 — 11 months .. .. .	527	65
1 — 2 months .. .. .	88	11
3 — 5 months .. .. .	173	21
6 — 8 months .. .. .	154	19
9 — 11 months .. .. .	112	14

NOTE: Of the 6,432 infants born alive in 1950, 278 died in the first month of life; the *neo-natal mortality rate* therefore was 43 per 1,000 live births.

Of the 6,154 infants that survived the first month of life 527 died before completing the first year of life; the mortality rate for infants in the second to twelfth month of life therefore was 86 per 1,000 infants alive at the beginning of the second month of life.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 125 per 1,000 live births.

Comparative figures for the U.K., U.S.A. and Barbados

Country	Infant Mortality Rate	Neo-natal Rate
United Kingdom .. .. {1946 1950	41 30	24.2 Not available
United States of America .. {1946 1950	33 29	24.0 Not available
Barbados .. .. {1946 1950	157 125	Not available 43



## APPENDIX XI

BARBADOS.

## INFANT DEATHS BY AGE IN MONTHS FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Age at Death	Deaths in First Year of Life			
	URBAN		RURAL	
	Number	% Distribution	Number	% Distribution
Under 1 Year .. ..	279	100	526	100
Under 1 Month .. ..	111	40	167	32
Under 1 Day .. ..	25	9	24	5
1—6 days .. ..	52	19	73	14
7 days—1 month .. ..	24	12	70	13
1—11 months .. ..	168	60	359	68
1— 2 months .. ..	31	11	57	11
3— 5 months .. ..	51	20	118	22
6— 8 months .. ..	51	18	103	20
9—11 months .. ..	31	11	81	15

## APPENDIX XII

## BARBADOS.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE;  
NUMBER OF DEATHS; % DISTRIBUTION  
FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Cause of Death	Deaths in the First Year of Life	
	Number	% Distribution
All Causes .. .. .	805	100
Pre-natal and natal causes .. .. .	458	57
Premature birth .. .. .	101	12.5
Congenital malformations .. .. .	10	1.2
Injury at birth .. .. .	10	1.2
Congenital debility .. .. .	167	21
Other diseases peculiar to the first year of life .. .. .	75	9.3
Syphilis .. .. .	70	8.7
Tetanus .. .. .	25	3.1
Respiratory Diseases .. .. .	107 (a)	13.3
Gastro-Intestinal Diseases .. .. .	110 (b)	13.6
Epidemic & Other communicable dis- eases .. .. .	19	2.3
Malnutrition .. .. .	69	8.6
All other specified causes .. .. .	40	5
Ill-defined & unknown causes .. .. .	2	.2

- (a) Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases.  
(b) Chiefly gastro-enteritis.



## APPENDIX XIII

BARBADOS.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE  
NUMBER OF DEATHS, % DISTRIBUTION  
FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Cause of Death	Deaths in First Year of Life.			
	URBAN		RURAL	
	Number	% Distrub.	Number	% Distrub.
All Causes .. ..	279	100	526	100
Pre-natal and natal causes ..	171	61.3	287	54.6
Premature Birth ..	44	15.8	57	10.8
Congenital malformations	8	2.9	2	.4
Injury at Birth .. ..	2	7	8	1.5
Congenital debility ..	70	25.1	97	18.4
Other diseases peculiar to first year of life ..	24	8.6	51	9.6
Syphilis .. ..	18	6.5	52	9.9
Tetanus .. ..	5	1.7	20	3.8
Respiratory .. ..	43	15.4	64	12.2
Gastro-Intestinal diseases ..	26	9.3	84	16
Epidemic & other communicable diseases .. ..	6	2.2	13	2.5
Malnutrition .. ..	7	2.5	62	11.8
All other specified causes ..	25	9	15	2.9
Ill-defined or unknown causes	1	.3	1	.2

## APPENDIX XIV

## BARBADOS.

## TUBERCULOSIS : Deaths and Death Rate per 100,000 population.

Years	No. of Deaths	Death Rate per 100,000 pop. (estimated).
1930/4	111 (mean)	62.6
1935/9	115 "	60.3
1940/4	122 "	60.7
1945/9	116 "	55.9

## TUBERCULOSIS: Deaths and Death Rate per 100,000 population, using the 1946 Census Year Pop. of 192,800 on 31/12/46.

Year	No. of Deaths	Death Rate per 100,000 population
1945	114	59.1
1946	119	61.7
1947	112	58.1
1948	139	72.1
1949	94	48.8
1950	85	44.1

## TUBERCULOSIS: Death Rate per 100,000 living, Urban and Rural.

Year	Urban	Rural
1933	80	36
1942	127	31
1948	117	38
1949	77	25
1950	59	36



BARBADOS GENERAL HOSPITAL

A. TABLE SHOWING THE ADMISSIONS FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED ON 31ST MARCH, 1951

Year.	Xt. Church	St. John	St. Philip	St. Joseph	St. George	St. Thomas	St. James	St. Peter	St. Andrew	St. Lucy	Total from out Parishes	St. Michael	Seamen	Other Non- Residents	Grand Total
1946—47 ...	789	267	357	207	534	248	291	215	136	134	3,178	4,210	67	42	7,497
1947—48 ...	1,017	286	371	171	436	315	282	201	147	161	3,387	4,074	68	21	7,550
1948—49 ...	1,083	314	351	230	491	358	342	202	148	201	3,720	4,477	53	38	8,288
1949—50 ...	1,149	361	443	224	544	409	335	236	128	192	4,021	4,620	52	30	8,723
1950—51 ...	1,217	450	487	252	594	479	425	276	151	193	4,524	4,872	39	29	9,464
															11

B. STATISTICAL TABLE OF INDOOR DEPARTMENT FOR THE FIVE YEARS ENDED ON 31ST MARCH, 1951

Year.	ADMISSIONS			DISCHARGES										DEATHS				NUMBER TREATED				MORTALITY			
		Male	Female	Total	Cured	Relieved	No Result	Incurable	Total	Average Stay of Discharges		Longest Stay in Hospital		Male	Female	Total	Average Stay of Deaths		No. of Persons in Hospital at end of previous year	No. of Admissions	Total under Treatment	Rate of Mortality	No. of Deaths within 48 Hours	Rate of Mortality Exclusive of These	
										Days	Days	Days	Days				Days	Days							
1946—47	3,514	3,983	7,497	271	3,782	2,733	536	1	7,052	14	253	226	216	442	8	262	7,497	7,759	5.7	176	3.4				
1947—48	3,613	3,937	7,550	258	4,104	2,428	557	0	7,089	13	342	254	192	446	10	265	7,550	7,815	5.7	200	3.1				
1948—49	4,008	4,280	8,288	281	4,336	2,787	602	52	7,777	12	398	274	217	491	8	280	8,288	8,568	5.7	210	3.2				
1949—50	4,119	4,604	8,723	301	4,266	3,272	658	44	8,240	12	377	262	218	480	11	300	8,723	9,023	5.3	49	4.7				
1950—51	4,526	4,938	9,464	318	4,837	3,259	760	52	8,908	12	572	273	247	520	10	303	9,464	9,767	5.3	52	4.7				

OUT-PATIENTS : There were 71,678 attendances recorded on the Out-Patient Department during the year. Of this number 22,817 were new cases and 48,861 were After-Attendances.

## APPENDIX XVI

## BARBADOS.

THE CHIEF DISEASES TREATED AT THE BARBADOS GENERAL  
HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR 1950.

Disease							Cases	Deaths
Abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	227	1
Adenoids	..	..	..	..	..	..	120	—
Anaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	51	8
Aneurysm	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	626	4
Arthritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	—
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	141	4
Broncho-pneumonia	—	Adults	..	..	..	..	15	8
		Children	..	..	..	..	121	34
Burns	..	..	..	..	..	..	153	2
Carbuncle	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	—
Carcinoma of Breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	3
Carcinoma of Cervix	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	2
Cardiac Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	145	49
Cataract	..	..	..	..	..	..	61	—
Cellulitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	155	—
Conjunctivitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	—
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	15
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	1
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	1
Dysmenorrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	46	—
Eclampsia	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	8
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	37	7
Fibroid	..	..	..	..	..	..	310	—
Fractures	..	..	..	..	..	..	272	6
Gangrene	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	7
Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	254	25
Glaucoma	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	—
Hepatitis, infectious	..	..	..	..	..	..	152	15
Hernia	..	..	..	..	..	..	301	5
Hydrocele	..	..	..	..	..	..	49	—
Marasmus	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	59
Menorrhagia	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	—
Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	7
Neuritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	—
Orchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	—
Osteomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	—
Pelvic Inflammatory Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	278	4
Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	10



APPENDIX XVI—*Continued*

## BARBADOS.

THE CHIEF DISEASES TREATED AT THE BARBADOS GENERAL  
HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR 1950.

Disease							Cases	Deaths
Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	—
Pneumonia, lobar	—	Adults	..	..	..	..	107	14
		Children	..	..	..	..	63	12
Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	—
Salpingitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	—
Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	238	9
Tetanus	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	24
Tonsillitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	170	1
Toxaemia of Pregnancy		..	..	..	..	..	93	5
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	3
Ulcer — Peptic		..	..	..	..	..	62	2
	Gastric, perforated	..	..	..	..	..	4	2
	Rodent	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
	Leg	..	..	..	..	..	67	2
	Duodenal	..	..	..	..	..	5	2

## APPENDIX XVII.

## BARBADOS.

OPERATIONS PERFORMED AT THE BARBADOS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR 1950

Major Operations (inclusive of E.N.T.)	..	..	..	2,041
Minor Operations (not including those performed in Out-patient and Casualty)	..	..	..	977
Eye Operations	..	..	..	119
Deaths	..	..	..	75
Anaesthetics administered (all types)	..	..	..	2,850



## APPENDIX XVIII.

BARBADOS GENERAL HOSPITAL, X-RAY EXAMINATIONS  
1950—51.

No. of Cases from April, 1950 to March, 1951	..	5,885
No. of private cases	.. .. .	537
No. of public cases	.. .. .	5,348
		<hr/>
No. of cases in Hospital	.. .. .	1,623
No. of cases outside Hospital	.. .. .	4,262
		<hr/>

## CLASSIFICATION

No. of Fluoroscopic examinations	.. .. .	255
		<hr/>
No. of Bones	.. .. .	3,593
No. of Urinary Tracts (K.U.B.)	.. .. .	86
No. of intravenous Pyelographies	.. .. .	38
No. of retrograde Pyelographies	.. .. .	1
No. of Opaque meals	.. .. .	187
No. of Opaque enemas	.. .. .	28
No. of Gall bladders	.. .. .	69
No. of Cholecystographies	.. .. .	63
No. of abdomens	.. .. .	18
No. of Pregnancies	.. .. .	106
No. of chests	.. .. .	1,559
No. of hearts	.. .. .	59
No. of sinuses	.. .. .	57
No. of dentals	.. .. .	20
No. of Salpinographies	.. .. .	1
		<hr/>

## X-RAY THERAPY DEPARTMENT

Total number of treatments	.. .. .	1,555
Total number of patients (of whom 76 were private)	.. .. .	179
Inspections of patients treated	.. .. .	668

## APPENDIX XIX

## BARBADOS.

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY, ANALYSIS OF ALL  
EXAMINATIONS FOR THE YEAR, 1949

Nature of Examination							Total
Agglutination Re-action.	{ B. typhosus .. .. .						201
	{ B. paratyphosus A. .. .						201
	{ B. paratyphosus B. .. .						201
	{ B. paratyphosus C. .. .						0
	{ B. dysenteriae .. .. .						0
	{ Br. abortus and Br. melitensis .. .						10
Serological and C-S Fluid re-action for syphilis .. .. .							6,480
Skin re-action for Lymphopathia venereum and smear for							
Leishmaniasis .. .. .							3
Sera for T. pallidum .. .. .							23
Blood Smears.	{ Malaria parasites .. .. .						23
	{ Microfilariae .. .. .						2
	{ Anaplasma, Piroplasma and Eimeria, etc. .. .						0
	{ Trypanosomes .. .. .						0
	{ Spirochetes of relapsing fever .. .						0
	{ Blood counts, etc. .. .. .						560
Glucose, Calcium and Urea in the blood .. .. .							101
Coagulation time of blood, bleeding time and sedimentation rate ..							56
Compatibility of bloods and blood groupings .. .. .							54
Occult blood in faeces and stomach contents, free HCL in stomach							
and test meals .. .. .							122
Helminthic ova and amorphous of dysentery .. .. .							282
Tissue sections .. .. .							166
C-S Fluid for cellular content, excess of globulin tubercle bacilli,							
other organisms, etc. .. .. .							170
Tubercle bacilli in faeces and calf's liver scrapings .. .. .							5
Miscellaneous	{ Sputa .. .. .						303
	{ Pus .. .. .						26
	{ Smears for gonococci .. .. .						223
	{ Smears for Myco leprae .. .. .						55
	{ Urine for tubercle bacilli or other organisms .. .						84
	{ Pleuritic, synovial or abdominal fluid .. .. .						24
	{ Nose and throat smears .. .. .						8



## APPENDIX XIX—Continued

## BARBADOS.

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY, ANALYSIS OF ALL  
EXAMINATIONS FOR THE YEAR, 1949

Nature of Examination					Total
<hr/>					
Bacteriological Analysis of Water .. .. .					21
Milk examinations and aerated sweet drinks .. .. .					0
Autogenous Vaccines prepared .. .. .					40
Cultural Examinations.	{	Throat swabs, for C. diphtheriae .. .. .			233
		Synovial fluid .. .. .			0
		Faeces .. .. .			6
		C-S Fluid .. .. .			3
		Urine .. .. .			4
		Blood .. .. .			2
		Sputum .. .. .			0
		Yeast .. .. .			0
		Pus .. .. .			6
		Rats, etc., .. .. .			
Fungoid Diseases .. .. .					1
Urine—Chemical and microscopical examination .. .. .					456
Friedman test for pregnancy .. .. .					72
Medico—legal investigations .. .. .					27
<hr/>					
Total .. .. .					10,254

## APPENDIX XX

## BARBADOS.

## STATISTICS OF THE MENTAL HOSPITAL FROM 1930—1950

Year	Popula- tion	First Admis- sions	Re- Admis- sions	Returned from leave	Total Admis- sions	Deaths	Dis- charges	Total at end of year	Differ- ence
1930	470	130	14	10	154	63	54	504	34
1931	504	119	13	12	144	69	53	529	25
1932	529	91	17	8	116	78	49	519	—10
1933	519	105	13	4	122	70	48	521	2
1934	521	123	11	15	149	48	72	549	28
1935	549	115	15	8	138	53	66	570	21
1936	570	121	11	22	154	76	74	575	5
1937	575	126	18	17	161	44	90	603	28
1938	603	138	18	17	173	63	85	629	26
1939	629	148	23	12	183	59	79	673	44
1940	673	145	22	15	182	54	84	714	41
1941	714	138	15	13	166	68	86	736	22
1942	736	128	21	9	158	78	81	735	—1
1943	735	121	19	20	160	63	91	743	8
1944	743	161	17	12	190	71	103	758	15
1945	758	132	18	25	175	86	112	735	—23
1946	735	153	27	15	195	99	74	756	21
1947	756	140	34	11	185	92	108	742	—14
1948	742	161	35	22	218	82	122	756	21
1949	756	180	32	16	228	83	168	733	—23
1950	733	178	23	29	230	70	180	713	—20



## APPENDIX XXI.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK PERFORMED BY THE INSPECTING  
FIELD FORCE FOR THE YEAR 1950—51

Routine work done by the staff during the period under review was based on similar line to those during the previous year and included the following:—

- (a) House inspection.
- (b) Mosquito survey work.
- (c) Quarantine and port sanitation.
- (d) Investigation of nuisances and work in connection with the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases.

2. *House inspection.* This phase of the work included general house-to-house visits, inspection of Government buildings in all parishes and quarterly inspections of Government institutions.

3. Comparatively speaking, very little progress has been made where the improvements recorded in the previous year's report are concerned: It was observed in some parishes that there is usually a wave of activity following interim reports on existing conditions in certain localities, provided these reports are of an adverse nature. The activity is generally very short lived and after a period of time a gradual decline in standards is again apparent.

4. The major difficulty again experienced in the field is the improper disposal of refuse from premises. It must be appreciated that facilities for wholesale removal of rubbish from premises are not always available, but stricter supervision, together with more education of the population in the various districts, should do much to create a better interest and a definite raising of the standard of environmental sanitation in the Island.

5. Sanitary conveniences in use were of the usual types—pit and pail closets, water closets, middens and pit holes. Further efforts have been made in some parishes to improve a few of the types now in use, but progress in this direction has been slow. Best results so far have been noted in the parish of St. Peter where many householders in the Speightstown section now have pit closets in place of pails and pit holes formerly used.

6. Economic conditions are largely responsible for the use of pit holes by householders as sanitary conveniences, but in the absence of suitable legislation to prevent the use of this out-moded type of sanitary arrangement, the pit hole system with its concomitant evils will still remain.

7. A slight reduction in the incidence of fly breeding has been observed, but it must be mentioned again that this varies according to the seasons of the year. With regard to mosquito breeding in water receptacles on premises, better control has been noted during the year, but there is still room for improvement.

8. *Mosquito Survey Work*—Water areas in the various parishes were inspected at regular intervals during routine survey work. No appreciable improvements have been observed during the year. Attention has been drawn repeatedly in the interim reports to the lack of any systematic methods of mosquito control work in many of the parishes. With the exception of the



parish of St. Michael, control measures noted in the other parishes are either restricted to water areas in one section or carried spasmodically on a comparatively small scale.

9. *Culex* mosquitoes are still prevalent to a great extent in watercourses and other collections, and the number of potential mosquito breeding places in the field is gradually increasing because of the fact that very little general or marginal grass cleaning work and oil treatment are being carried out. No anopheline mosquitoes were found breeding in any of the water areas included in the general mosquito survey work in the Island.

10. Quarantine and port sanitation—deratisation work in the Port and its environs was carried out as usual by the rat destruction staff of the Department together with staff under the Health Officer (Port). During the month of July, 1950, in collaboration with the mercantile community a rat week campaign carried out around the city met with fairly satisfactory results..

11. Thirty-six (36) schooners were fumigated during the year and the number of rats certified to have been destroyed after these operations was satisfactory.

12. Disinsectisation work was done aboard 560 vessels which entered the Port during the year. As usual these were boarded in mid-stream where cabins, holds and other rooms were sprayed before the vessels were allowed to berth in the inner basin of the Careenage.

13. Investigation of nuisances, complaints and infectious diseases—Complaints relative to fly, mosquito and other nuisances reported to the Department were investigated and wherever practicable remedial measures were adopted immediately.

14. Wherever it was found necessary in cases of infectious diseases reported, disinfection work was carried out by the staff on the instructions of the Director of Medical Services. In connection with the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases special work was done at the General Hospital, also the Mental Hospital where certain wards and some buildings were treated with 5% D.D.T. residual spray solutions at various periods.

15. Some details of the summary of work done by the Field Force are set out as follows:—

(a) *Inspections.*

Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,184
Water closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,027
Pit closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,478
Pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,682
Pails, buckets	..	..	..	..	..	..	892
Pit holes	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,348
Privy middens	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Using in common	..	..	..	..	..	..	425
Premises with animals	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,536
Urinals to stables	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,980
Manure heaps	..	..	..	..	..	..	886
Water receptacles	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,622
Surface wells	..	..	..	..	..	..	218



(b) *Nuisances.*

Full pit closets .. .. .	139
Insanitary pit closets .. .. .	16
Full and/or insanitary pails .. .. .	140
Full and/or insanitary pit holes .. .. .	43
Insanitary privy middens .. .. .	1
Premises without sanitary arrangements .. .. .	93
Premises with disused tins, bottles, etc. .. .. .	621
Structurally defective latrines .. .. .	401
Manure heaps found breeding flies .. .. .	276
Premises on which mosquitoes were found breeding .. .. .	214
Premises on which animals were kept contrary to law .. .. .	31

16. *Rat Destruction.*

No. of rats caught in traps .. .. .	2,166
No. of rats certified to have been destroyed by poison baits laid .. .. .	1,967
No. of rats certified to have been destroyed by fumigation .. .. .	202
No. of mice destroyed by traps, poison baits and fumigation .. .. .	1,542
No. of poison baits laid .. .. .	26,785







